



Local Flood Guide

Miners Rest

Understand, prepare, and respond effectively to your flood risk.

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Victorian State Emergency Service acknowledges Aboriginal Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays respect to their cultures and Elders past and present.

Disclaimer: Victoria State Emergency Service assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions for any of the content in this document.

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For more information visit: ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe

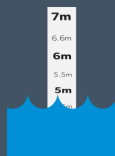


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Local flood information



There have been seven significant flood events in Miners Rest between 1981 and 2011.



The largest flood on record was in 2011 when the floodwater reached 95mm at the Ballarat Aerodrome rainfall gauge.



Flooding can happen within 3-6 hours after heavy rainfall, giving people little to no time to prepare and take action.

Why does Miners Rest flood?

Miners Rest is at risk of both **riverine flooding**, **flash flooding** and **storm water flooding** which can happen separately or at the same time. Both are usually caused by heavy rainfall.

Riverine flooding

This happens when the Burrumbeet Creek rises and overflows its banks, and spills water onto land. The most common cause is prolonged heavy rainfall.

- Burrumbeet Creek stretches over 30km beginning at Invermay and flowing west through Miners Rest and Windermere before reaching Lake Burrumbeet. The surrounding landscape is flat and covered with wetland which often results in widespread flooding along the creek.

Flash flooding

This type of flooding can happen quickly and you may not receive an official warning. Although these floods only last a short time, they can cause severe damage.

- The ground may be unable to absorb the amount of rainfall naturally causing the water to pool. More buildings and less green spaces can impact this.



How do floods impact communities?



Buildings flooded



Road closures



Drinking water supply and quality affected



Power outages



Mobile and internet network outage



Sewage overflows inside building

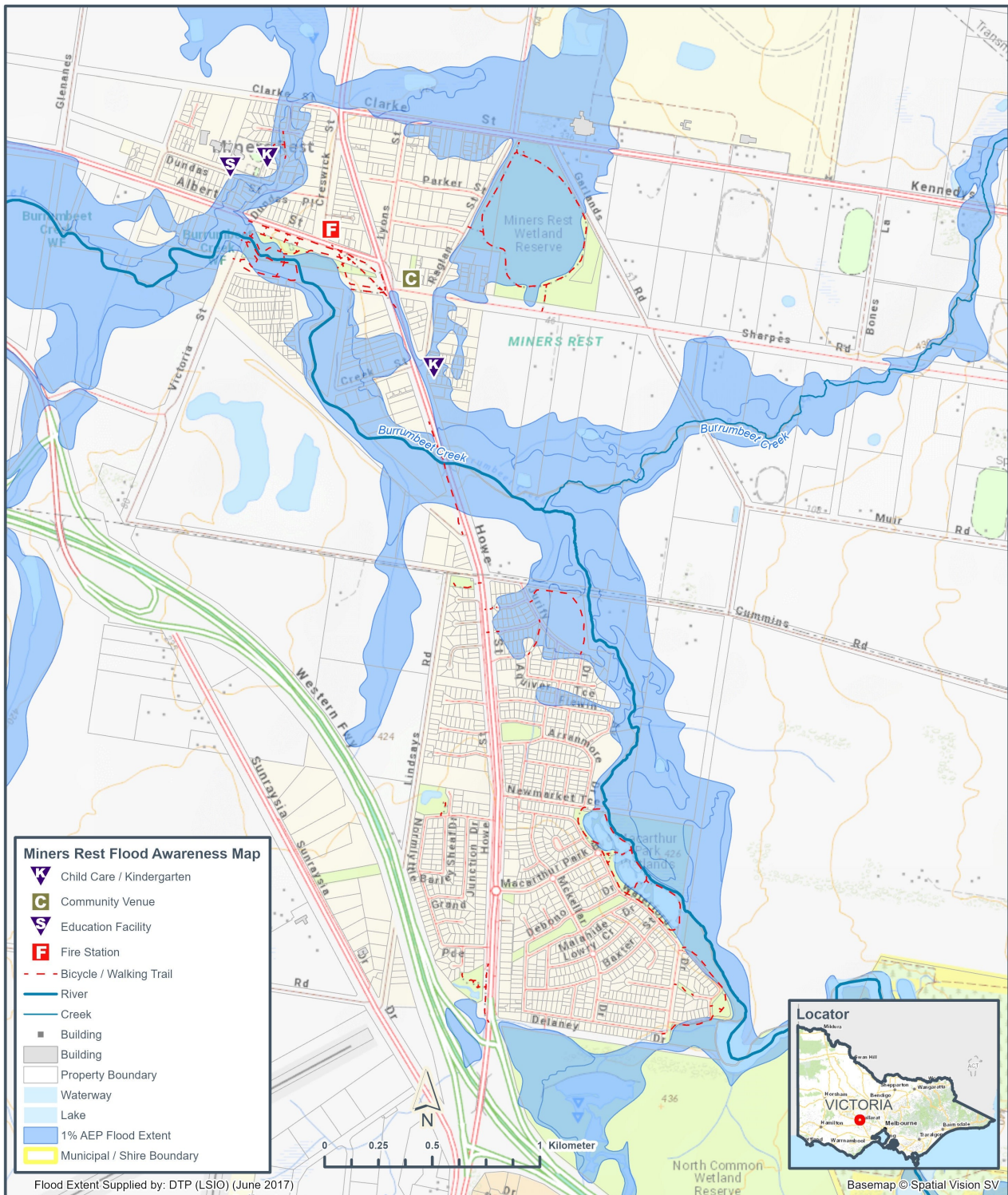
Check your home, work, and travel routes for floodwater

If this map shows potential flood risk for you, ensure you take action to **plan and prepare for floods**. See [page 8](#) for more information.

- This map shows the area likely to flood in a 1% AEP flood event.
- This is referred to as a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP), which means there is a 1% chance of this size flood (or greater) happening in any year.



View an interactive version of this map using the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority's [GHCMA Flood Portal](#), see [page 7](#) for more information.



What might happen in a flood in your area?

Although no two floods are the same and the environment is constantly changing, the below table provides an idea of what to expect at different flood levels.

- **Before a flood:** Use the rainfall details in the table to help you decide when you will need to act to protect yourself and your property in a flood event.
- **During a flood:** When a warning is issued by [VicEmergency](#), use the predicted rainfall and warning information to understand what the potential impacts may be for you and your community.



Rainfall* (millimetres)	Potential impacts ^
Major flood level (in addition to the below)	
85mm in 5 hours	■ Midland Highway becomes impacted, there may be shallow floodwater on part of the Western Highway.
140mm in 24 hours	■ A total of 178 properties are potentially impacted from riverine and/or stormwater flooding.
	■ An estimated 36 potentially flooded above floor level, with a further 142 properties potentially impacted below floor level.
Moderate flood level (in addition to the below)	
75mm in 5 hours	■ Flood extent is similar to January 2011 flood shown on map on page 4 .
	■ 18 buildings are at risk of flooding above floor level, with a further 142 properties potentially inundated with water from the Burrumbeet Creek and flash flooding.
120mm in 24 hours	■ Flooding may impact access to additional roads, including Clarke Street, Dundas Street/Dundas Place and James Court. Shallow flooding may also impact the Sunraysia Highway to the south and west of Miners Rest.
Minor flood level (in addition to the below)	
40mm in 5 hours	■ Flooding of properties along Clarke, Creek and Hamlin Streets. Victoria Street ford and some properties on Garlands Road are flooded.
70mm in 24 hours	■ Miners Rest Wetland covered by water, resulting in shallow inundation of some properties in Sharpes Road and Raglan Street. Floodwater may impact access to sections of Creek Street and Olliers Road.
	■ A building in Hakea Drive, Invermay may be impacted by flooding above floor level. 83 properties may have water on their property. Some local roads may be flooded.

*The height measurement is at the Ballarat Aerodrome Rainfall gauge .

^This table includes information from flood studies, which are scientific models used to predict impacts at different flood heights and flows.

What roads are likely to flood?

During a flood, the roads listed below may flood and could be closed.

- For current road closures, check [VicTraffic](#).
- [VicEmergency](#) may include road closures in its warnings, see [page 9](#) for more information.

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| ■ Albert Street | ■ Clarke Street | ■ Creek Street |
| ■ Cummins Road | ■ Douglas Close | ■ Dundas Place |
| ■ Gillies Road | ■ Hamlin Street | ■ Howe Street |
| ■ Miners Rest Road | ■ Midland Highway | ■ Pound Hill Road |
| ■ Raglan Street | ■ Sharpes Road | ■ Victoria Street |



Stay safe by never driving through floodwater. It can take just 15cm of flowing water to float a car, that's the height of an average pen.

2011 Flood event

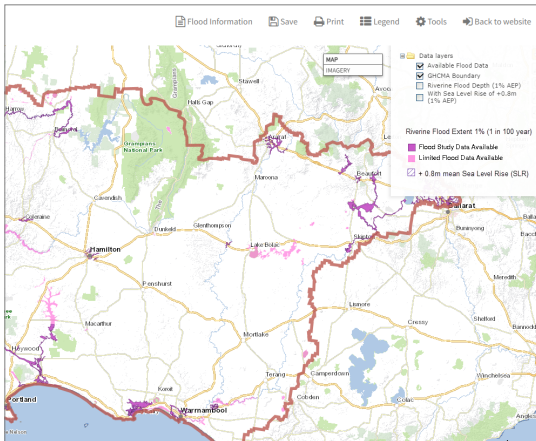
While no two floods are the same, understanding the impacts of past floods can help you anticipate impacts of future flood events.

The January 2011 flood event is the largest flood on record.

- The rainfall was characterised by a slow build-up and flooding did not commence until approximately 48 hours after rainfall commenced.
- 18 homes had water above floor level.
- Water over Albert Street bank, flooding properties in Dundas Place, James Court and Douglas Close.
- Miners Rest Wetland overflowed, flooding properties in Raglan and part of Sharpes Road.
- Roads impacted by floodwater included: Gillies Road, Albert Street, Miners Rest Road, Pound Hill Road, Howe Street, and other streets.
- Midland Highway may flood in parts of the highway if water rises and spills over the banks of Burrumbeet Creek.



Download your free Property Flood Report



The [GHCMA Flood Portal](https://flood.ghcma.vic.gov.au), developed by the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, is a tool for residents and businesses to assess their flood risk.

- Use the portal to zoom in on your property and see if it's likely to be affected in a large flood event.
- Download a free property report for properties inside the mapped area.

Go to flood.ghcma.vic.gov.au.



In a flood emergency, stay informed through [VicEmergency](https://www.vic.gov.au/vic-emergency), see [page 9](#) for more information.

Your local services

Catchment Management Authority

For general advice about flooding and controls on planning scheme amendments.

- **Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority**
ghcma.vic.gov.au | 03 5571 2526

Local Council

For relief support after a flood event and general land use planning.

- **City of Ballarat**
ballarat.vic.gov.au | 03 5320 5500



Floodwater can be very deep, rise quickly and move fast.
Stay safe by avoiding flooded areas.

Plan and prepare for floods

1 How to stay informed

VicEmergency is Victoria's source of emergency information and warnings.

- Set-up a watch zone for your area for alerts when warnings are issued.
- Learn about the three different warning levels.



VicEmergency app
emergency.vic.gov.au
1800 226 226



vicemergency



@vicemergency



2 Make an Emergency Plan

Use information from your Local Flood Guide and your Catchment Management Authority, to help you decide;

- What you will do in a flood emergency
- When you will do it
- Who you will inform



Red Cross RediPlan is a free tool that helps you create a simple emergency plan that supports the flood actions you have chosen.

- Visit redcross.org.au/prepare
- Download the [Get Prepared](#) app

3 Prepare an emergency kit



You may need to stay safe for 72 hours in a disaster before help arrives. Make sure you have safe drinking water, food, and any special needs or medications for all family.



There will be extra items to be added to your emergency kit in an emergency like clothes, a phone and charger.



Watch a video on how to get your Emergency kit ready.
youtu.be/XgyLnKDMkNo

4 Reduce impacts to your property

- ☐ Keep gutters and drains clear of debris including leaves and any other items.
- ☐ Check your building and contents insurance, what kind of flooding does it cover?
- ☐ Move your valuable possessions up high.
- ☐ Back up important files and documents to a cloud storage or USB kept elsewhere.
- ☐ Identify higher ground on or around your property, away from the danger area.
- ☐ Consider buying sand and sandbags ahead of time, refer to our Sandbag Guide for more information.

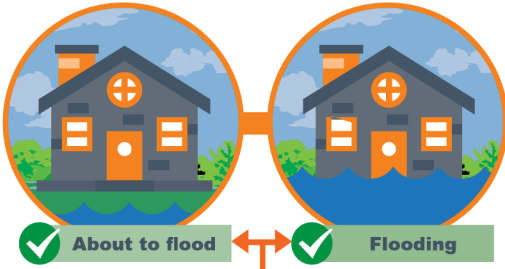


For more details and other tips, visit:
ses.vic.gov.au/flood



What to do in a flood emergency

When to call VICSES



Flood emergency assistance call VICSES 132 500



If life threatening call triple zero 000

Stay Informed

VicEmergency

Emergency warnings will provide information on what is happening and advice of what you should do.

You may not receive an official warning before a flood.



VicEmergency app
emergency.vic.gov.au
1800 226 226



vicemergency @vicemergency



■ Set-up a watch zone for alerts for your area.

Bureau of Meteorology



Monitor rainfall, river levels, weather forecasts/warnings.

https://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood/glenelg_hopkins.shtml

Emergency broadcasters



Radio | ABC 594AM, 94.1AM, 3BA Radio, Power FM 103.1

TV | Sky News

If you expect floodwater at your property

1



Bag it

Sandbag doorways and low-lying windows to slow floodwater entering your home.

2



Block it

Block toilets, bath and drains using a sandbag ideally placed inside a plastic rubbish bag.

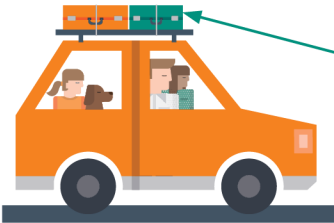
3



Lift it

Put your valuables and electrical items as high as possible. Turn off power, gas, and water at the mains.

4



Leave

■ Leave **before** the flood arrives.

■ Check warnings from VicEmergency for information like evacuation or relief centres, and road closures.

■ Travel to the home of family or friends who are in a safe location, away from the flooded area.

Take your emergency kit and add the items below:



Phone & charger



Prescriptions & medication



Clothes for your family



Strong shoes



Pet needs

Never drive through floodwater

Large



A Large 4WD can be moved by water only 45cm deep.

Small



A small car can be moved by water only 15cm deep.



For more details and other tips, visit:

ses.vic.gov.au/flood

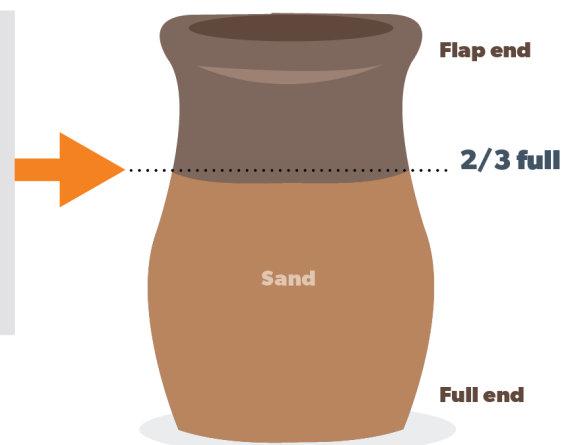


Sandbagging

Sandbags won't stop the water completely, but can reduce the amount of water entering your home.

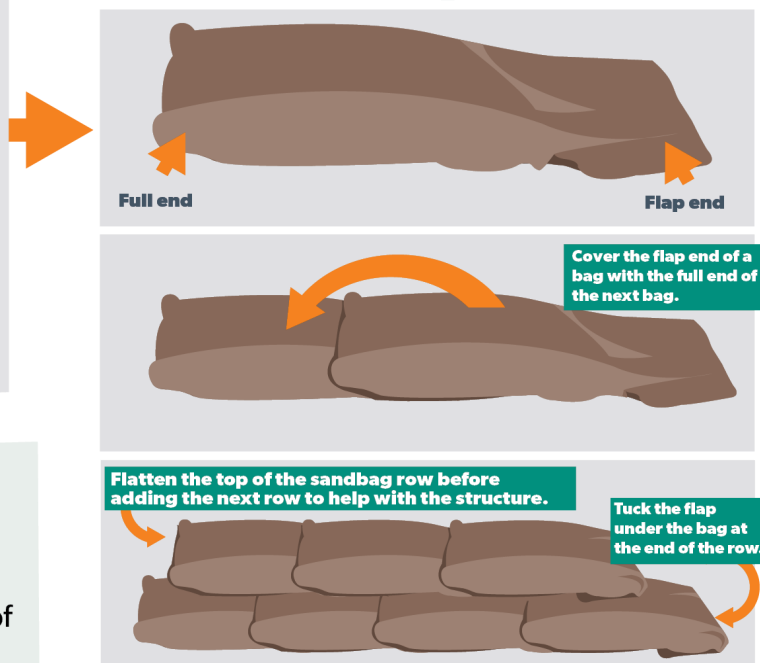
How do I fill a sandbag?

- Only use sand to fill hessian bags. Do not use dirt.
- Only fill sandbag two-thirds full.
- Do not over fill the sandbag as it will be too heavy to carry.
- Do not tie the top of the sandbag.
- Take care when filling and lifting the sandbag, to avoid injury.



How do I lay sandbags?

- Lay sandbags like brickwork. Stagger rows so that the joins do not line up.
- Start at one end and work to the other end.
- Ensure the unfilled part of the bag is covered by the next bag.
- Tuck flap under the bag at the end of the row.
- If the sandbag wall is going to be more than five (5) bags high, you will need to lay two (2) rows wide.



Where do I place the sandbags?

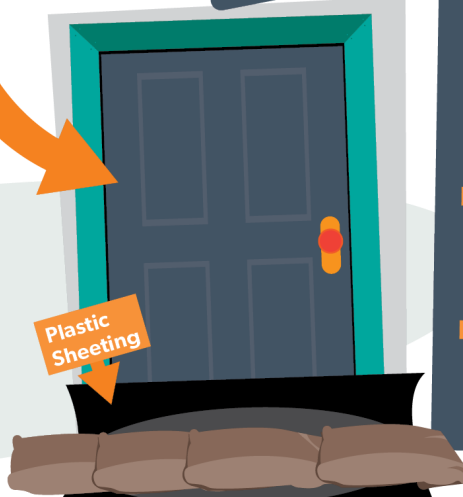
- Place sandbags in plastic bags to cover drainage holes in home (e.g. showers, toilets, sinks) to stop back flow of water.
- Place a small wall across doorways, at least the height of the expected water level. Be careful not to trap yourself inside.
- If available, plastic sheeting may be used under sandbags to reduce the seepage.

Block it

Toilets, bath and all drain holes



Plastic Sheeting



What do I do once I have finished with the sandbags?

- Sturdy gloves should be worn when handling wet sandbags as they can contain chemicals, waste and diseases.
- Sandbags that have been in contact with floodwater need to be thrown away.
- Contact your local council to find out how to dispose of your sandbags safely.





Sandbags and sand

Preparing your home

Having sandbag supplies ready can assist you before a flooding emergency occurs.

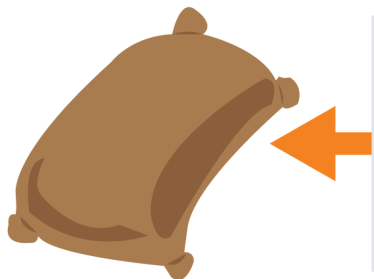


What supplies do I need to sandbag my home?

- Sandbags
- Sand
- Plastic sheeting
- Gloves and safety goggles
- Shovel and hand scoop

Where can I purchase these supplies?

- Many sandbag supplies can be purchased from hardware stores or garden centres.
- VICSES do not routinely supply sandbags to households.
- During floods, sandbag distribution points may be established in flood-affected areas.

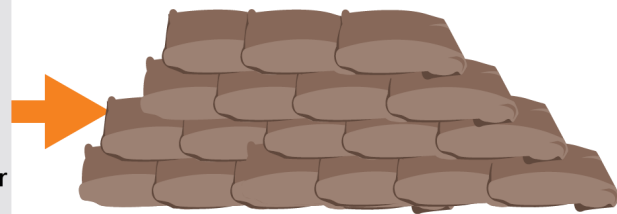


How many sandbags will I need and how much sand?

- Most homes can be protected by less than 25 sandbags.
- The number of sandbags will depend on your local flood risk and availability.
- Sandbags are filled 2/3 full which requires around 15-20kgs of sand per bag.

How do I store my sand and sandbags?

- Filled sandbags only have a short shelf life.
- It is recommended to store sandbags empty.
- Sandbags should be stored in a cool dry area away from UV light.
- Sand should be kept dry and can be stored in water resistant containers or under a tarp.
- Sand is heavy - ensure it is stored so it can be moved safely.



When should I sandbag my home?

- **You** are best placed to decide if there is a need to sandbag your home, based on local knowledge and past flood events.
- Monitor your local conditions. Stay up-to-date with weather forecasts and warnings by downloading the **BOM Weather** and **VicEmergency** apps, or call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.
- If you think you are at risk, do not wait for an official warning to act.